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## WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification <sup>7</sup>: C12N 5/04, 15/09, 15/11, 15/52, A01H 5/00, 5/10

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 00/11138

(43) International Publication Date:

2 March 2000 (02.03.00)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US99/20849

A1

(22) International Filing Date:

24 August 1999 (24.08.99)

(30) Priority Data:

60/097,684

24 August 1998 (24.08.98) US

KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG,

KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW,

ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP,

(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE,

ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: SALT-TOLERANT TRANSGENIC TURFGRASS

(57) Abstract

A transgenic turfgrass plant expressing a betaine aldehyde dehydrogenase—encoding transgene is provided. The transgenic plant displays significantly increased tolerance to salinity than does its non-transgenic equivalents. The plant also displays increased tolerance to drought conditions. The salt— and drought—tolerant transgenic turfgrass may be planted in regions of high salinity, such as seaside, or in regions where irrigation water is scarce.